Sl.	Name of Place	Date of Sanction	Amount Sanction-ed in Lakhs	Implement-ation status Works com-pleted	Target dates
4.	Gogamukh	30/04/96	12.92	55%	30/10/2000
5.	Dhakuakhana	30/04/96	12.92	80%	31/08/2000
6.	Bihupuria	30/04/96	12.92	90%	31/08/2000
7.	Jonni	30/04/96	12.92	60%	30/09/2000
8.	Silapathar	30/04/96	12.92	50%	31/10/2000
9.	Golaghat	30/04/96	21.81	60%	31/10/2000
10.	Kaziranga	27/08/98	8.02	95%	31/08/2000
11.	Digboi (Vertical Extension)	29/04/99	9.76	50%	31/10/2000
12.	Diphu	09/11/99	49.74	20%	28/02/2001

Rural Telephones

1630. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the pace of telephonic connection to the villages is very slow;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the target fixed in that regard for the Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise; and

(d) the details of the proposals made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Telephone connections in the villages are provided to individual subscribers as DELs (Direct Exchanges Lines) and as VPTs (Village Public Telephones) to the villages. The DELs targets are not only fully achieved but also exceeded. However, there has been a short-fall in the achievement of targets for VPTs. The main reasons for this shortfall are, the need to identify a suitable technology after decision to discontinue the MARR (Multi Access Radio Relay) system, unreliable power supply and other logistical difficulties.

(c) and (d) The telephone connections to individual subscribers in the villages are provided through Small and Medium capacity exchanges. The year-wise and Circle-wise targets for these exchanges for 9th five year plan are enclosed in Statement I (*see below*). The targets for VPTs are enclosed in statement-II below.

Statement-I

Year-Wise/Circle-Wise Targets for Small and Medium Capacity Exchanges for 9th Five year Plan

Sl. No.	Circle	1997-98 (Gross Lines)	1998-99 (DELs)	1999-2000 (DELs)	2000-01 (DELs)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15000	70000	140000	3200
2.	Andaman & Nicobar	6400	3500	2500	175000
3.	Assam	29760	10000	14000	10000
4.	Bihar	102900	40000	50000	100000
5.	Gujarat	128000	70000	90000	82000
6.	Haryana	40000	13000	28000	40000
7.	Himachal Pradesh	45548	35000	37000	40000
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	15000	7000	13000	11600
9.	Karnataka	140000	30000	100000	100000
10.	Kerala	120000	85000	51000	37500
11.	Madhya Pradesh	73392	35000	35000	30000
12.	Maharashtra	156000	60000	100000	150000
13.	North East	35000	9000	10200	13000
14.	Orissa	42000	13500	35000	28000
15.	Punjab	90000	90000	130000	125000
16.	Rajasthan	180000	58000	90000	100000
17.	Tamilnadu	187000	100000	140000	125000
18.	Uttar Pradesh East	110000	40000	30000	100000
19.	Uttar Pradesh West	54000	35000	56000	46000
20.	West Bengal	95000	40000	72000	104000
	Total	**1800000**	**844000**	**1273700**	**1420300**

Plans for 2001-02 are being finalised.

Statement-II

VPT Target for 9th Five Year Plan

Sl. No.	Circles	Total number of villages	VPTs as on 1.4.97	Target for 9th Five Year Plan
1.	A&N	282	111	171
2.	AP	29460	21272	8188
3.	AS	22224	7864	14360
4.	BH	79208	15569	63639
5.	GJ	18125	13923	4202
6.	HY	6850	6510	340
7.	HP	16997	5075	11922
8.	JK	6764	2053	4711
9.	KT	27066	17481	9585
10.	KL	1530	1530	0
11.	MP	71526	35367	36159
12.	MH	42467	26450	16017
13.	NE	14446	3136	11310
14.	OR	46989	16173	30816
15.	PB	12687	12007	680
16.	RJ	38634	17325	21309
17.	TN	17991	17038	953
18.	UPE	75698	23394	52304
19.	UPW	39551	13957	25594
20.	WB	38337	10985	27352
21.	DEL	191	191	0
22.	Calcutta Telephones	468	421	347
	Total	**607491**	**267832**	**339659**

Note: VPT target for 9th Five Year Plan also includes contribution by Fixed Service Providers.